

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data storing and reproducing system
using a computer network comprising:

server for storing reproduction data;

5 at least one attachment unit coupled to
the server, the at least one attachment unit
comprising means for interfacing with a portable
memory device having a reference to the reproduction
data;

10 first and second reproduction devices 18
coupled to one or more of the at least one
attachment unit, the first reproduction device 18
capable of performing a first reproduction of the
reproduction data and the second reproduction device
15 18 capable of performing a second reproduction of
the reproduction data, the second data reproduction
being different than the first data reproduction;
and

 rule processing means for processing a
20 rule set to determine whether the reproduction data
satisfies selection criteria of the rule set,

 wherein the at least one attachment unit
requests the reproduction data from the server for
use by the reproduction device, if the reproduction
25 data satisfies the selection criteria.

 2. A data storing and reproducing system
according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one
attachment unit further comprises a user interface
30 for outputting information and receiving
instructions.

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3. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 2, wherein the user interface comprises a portion that is common to all reproduction devices and another portion that is customized to an attached reproduction device.

4. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 2, wherein the user interface displays for selection at least one entry corresponding to a reference to reproduction data stored in the portable memory device that satisfies the selection criteria, and at least one selectable function associated with one of the first and second reproduction devices.

5. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 2, wherein the rule set specifies an auto-operation to be automatically performed on reproduction data that satisfies the selection criteria.

6. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 5, wherein the auto-operation is an auto-print operation.

7. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 5, wherein the auto-operation is an auto-view operation.

8. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 1, wherein the rule processing

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means further comprises a means for determining whether to process the rule set based on a presence of a user-specified override.

5 9. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 1, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of "most recently used" reproduction data.

10 10. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 1, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of "most frequently used" reproduction data.

15 11. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 1, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of reproduction data having a suitable format for one of the first and second reproduction devices.

20 12. An attachment unit connectable to plural types of data processing devices, comprising:
 means for interfacing with a portable memory device having information including a
25 reference to reproduction data stored on a network server;

 means for processing a rule set to determine whether the reproduction data satisfies selection criteria of the rule set;

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means for sending a request for the reproduction data, when the reproduction data satisfies the selection criteria;

5 means for receiving the requested reproduction data from the network server and ensuring that the requested reproduction data is in a format for use by one of the plural types of data processing devices; and

10 means for causing the at least one of the plural types of data processing devices to perform a data reproduction of the received data.

15 13. An attachment unit according to Claim 12, further comprising a means for displaying a user interface for outputting information and receiving instructions.

20 14. An attachment unit according to Claim 13, wherein the user interface comprises a portion that is common to all reproduction devices and another portion that is customized to an attached reproduction device.

25 15. An attachment unit according to Claim 12, wherein the display means further comprises:

30 display means for displaying, for selection, at least one entry corresponding to a reference to reproduction data stored in the portable memory device that satisfies the selection criteria, and at least one selectable function

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associated with one of the first and second reproduction devices.

5 16. An attachment unit according to Claim 12, wherein the rule set specifies an auto-operation to be performed using reproduction data that satisfies the selection criteria.

10 17. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 16, wherein the auto-operation is an auto-print operation.

15 18. A data storing and reproducing system according to Claim 16, wherein the auto-operation is an auto-view operation.

20 19. An attachment unit according to Claim 12, wherein the rule processing means determines whether to process the rule set based on a user-specified override.

25 20. An attachment unit according to Claim 12, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of "most recently used" reproduction data.

30 21. An attachment unit according to Claim 12, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of "most frequently used" reproduction data.

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24. A method according to Claim 23, further comprising displaying a user interface having a portion that is common to all reproduction devices and another portion that is customized to an attached reproduction device.

25. A method according to Claim 24,
wherein the user interface displays for selection at
least one entry corresponding to a reference to
5 reproduction data stored in the portable memory
device that satisfies the selection criteria, and at
least one selectable function associated with one of
the first and second reproduction devices.

10 26. A method according to Claim 23,
wherein the rule set specifies an auto-operation to
be automatically performed on reproduction data that
satisfies the selection criteria.

15 27. A method according to Claim 26,
wherein the auto-operation is an auto-print
operation.

20 28. A method according to Claim 26,
wherein the auto-operation is an auto-view
operation.

25 29. A method according to Claim 23,
further comprising determining whether to process
the rule set based on a presence of a user-specified
override.

30 30. A method according to Claim 23,
wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection
of "most recently used" reproduction data.

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31. A method according to Claim 23,
wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection
of "most frequently used" reproduction data.

5 32. A method according to Claim 23,
wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection
of reproduction data having a suitable format for
one of the first and second reproduction devices.

10 33. A network terminal capable of being
accessed by at least one data reproduction device
having means for interfacing with a portable memory
device, the portable memory device including a
reference to reproduction data stored in the network
15 terminal, the network terminal, comprising:

 means for storing the reproduction data;

 means for receiving a request for the
reproduction data from the at least one data
reproduction device;

20 means for determining whether to convert
the reproduction data to a format compatible with
the reproduction device;

 means for converting the reproduction data
based on the result of a determination by the
25 determination means; and

 means for sending the reproduction data to
the reproduction device,

 wherein the reproduction data being
requested and sent satisfies selection criteria
30 included in a rule set associated with the
reproduction data.

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34. A network terminal according to Claim 33, wherein the rule set specifies an auto-operation to be automatically performed on reproduction data that satisfies the selection criteria.

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35. A network terminal according to Claim 34, wherein the auto-operation is an auto-print operation.

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36. A network terminal according to Claim 34, wherein the auto-operation is an auto-view operation.

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37. A network terminal according to Claim 33, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of "most recently used" reproduction data.

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38. A network terminal according to Claim 33, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of "most frequently used" reproduction data.

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39. A network terminal according to Claim 33, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of reproduction data having a suitable format for one of the first and second reproduction devices.

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40. A method for reproducing data using a terminal connected to a network having plural types

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of reproduction devices each having data format requirements, the method comprising:

storing the reproduction data;

5 sending access information corresponding to the reproduction data for storage in a portable memory device;

receiving a request for reproduction data determined to satisfy selection criteria included in a rule set associated with the reproduction data;

10 sending the reproduction data for reproduction by the requested reproduction device.

41. A method according to Claim 40, wherein the rule set specifies an auto-operation to be automatically performed on reproduction data that satisfies the selection criteria.

42. A method according to Claim 41, wherein the auto-operation is an auto-print operation.

43. A method according to Claim 41, wherein the auto-operation is an auto-view operation.

25 44. A method according to Claim 40, wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection of "most recently used" reproduction data.

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45. A method according to Claim 40,
wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection
of "most frequently used" reproduction data.

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46. A method according to Claim 40,
wherein the rule set includes criteria for selection
of reproduction data having a suitable format for
one of the first and second reproduction devices.

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